

DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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Russell W. Hinton State Auditor (404) 656-2174

February 26, 2007

The Honorable Bill Heath State Senator State Capitol, Room 109 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

> SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification Senate Bill (LC 21 9358)

Dear Senator Heath:

This bill would amend general provisions relating to retirement and pensions for any member of the Employees' Retirement System, Teachers Retirement System, or of any retirement system or pension fund whose funds are managed by either such retirement system. Specifically, this bill would allow any member who is vested for a benefit in such system or fund to terminate his or her membership and participation in such system or fund and have all employer and employee contributions with regular interest be deposited in an account designated by the member. Once a member terminates his or her membership in the retirement system or pension fund, for such purpose, such person shall forever be ineligible to participate in any public retirement system.

This is to certify that this is a fiscal retirement bill as defined in the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law.

Respectfully,

/s/ Russell W. Hinton State Auditor